

**DC 75**

**892**

OCT '10

PAUL CORNELL • PETE WOODS • PERE PÉREZ

**ACTION**  
**COMICS**



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892

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LEX LUTHOR'S

# ACTION

COMICS



PAUL CORNELL  
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SECOND FEATURE **SUPERBOY**

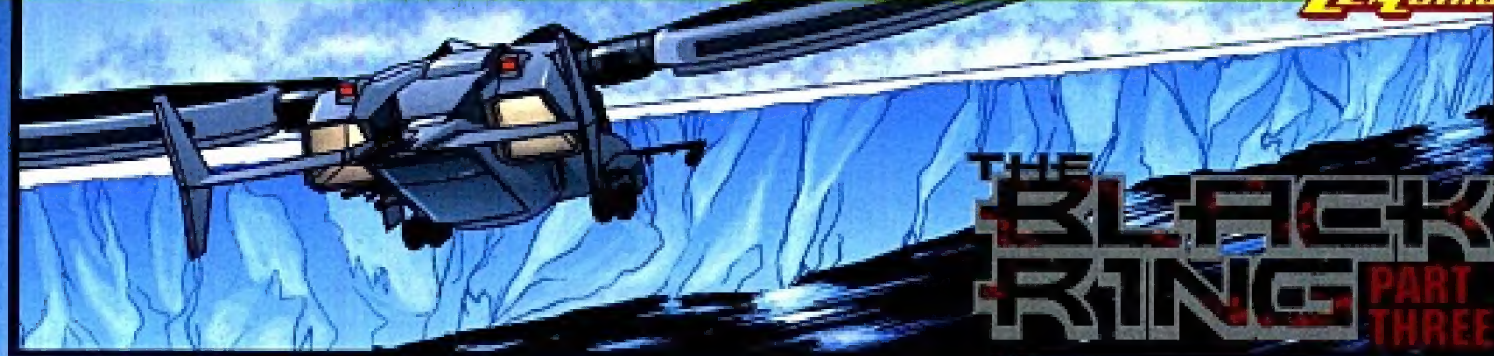
by JEFF LEMIRE and PIER GALLO





BORN IN SMALLVILLE BUT BELIEVING HIMSELF SUPERIOR, HE MURDERED HIS FATHER TO ESCAPE SMALL-TOWN AMERICA AND BUILT AN EMPIRE ON HIS GENIUS. THE SWORN ENEMY OF SUPERMAN, HE HAS VOWED THAT THE WORLD WILL TURN ITS BACK ON THE MAN OF STEEL AND INSTEAD EMBRACE HUMANITY'S CHAMPION... AND FUTURE RULER...

**LEAD**



ROSS ICE SHELF,  
ANTARCTICA.

WELL,  
ANYONE WHO'S  
PLANNING TO  
AMBUSH YOU--

--THEY  
BETTER WEAR  
WHITE.



**PAUL CORNELL** writer  
**PETE WOODS**  
with **PERE PÉREZ** artists  
**BRAD ANDERSON** colorist  
**ROB LEIGH** letterer  
**DAVID FINCH,**  
**JOE WEEMS &**  
**PETER STEIGERWALD**  
cover

**IVAN REIS,**  
**OCLAIR ALBERT &**  
**ALEX SINCLAIR,**  
(after Carmine Infantino and  
Murphy Anderson) variant cover  
**WIL MOSS** asst. editor  
**MATT IDELSON** editor  
**SUPERMAN** created by  
**JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER**





THE DARK RING RESIDUAL ENERGY SOURCE IS 2.1 KILOMETERS NORTH OF HERE.

THE WINDS, APPARENTLY, MEAN THAT MS. JESSOP CAN'T LAND US ANY CLOSER.

MR. WILSON WILL TAKE THE LEAD.

WATCH OUT FOR CREVASSES.



WHO IS THAT WOMAN WITH LEX? IS SHE THE ONE WHO LIVES IN THE RESIDENCE, WHO NOBODY EVER SEES?

SHE KEPT HER PARKA AND SUNGLASSES ON THE WHOLE FLIGHT.

SHE'S, er, JUST THE BOSS'S GIRLFRIEND, ALI. IT'S A "NEED TO KNOW"--

MS. JESSOP, MR. FINCH--



--MAY I REMIND YOU, WE'RE PAID FIVE TIMES THE SALARY OF OUR OPPOSITE NUMBERS ANYWHERE.

THAT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE WE'RE GOOD, IS IT?



NO, MR. SPALDING.

SHUTTING UP NOW, MR. SPALDING.



WE'D BETTER WATCH OUT FOR THOSE CREVASSES.





MISTER MIND  
WANTED ME TO  
BE HUNG UPSIDE-  
DOWN.\*

WHY? IT'S NOT  
LIKE IT MAKES ONE'S  
BRAIN WORK  
DIFFERENTLY.

AS FAR AS  
WE KNOW.

\*SEE THE LAST  
TWO ISSUES!  
--Mister Matt



MISTER MIND'S  
KIND OF AN  
EXPERT.

MAYBE THE  
INCREASED BLOOD  
FLOW HELPED HIS  
HALLUCINATIONS.



I CAN'T SEE HOW HE WOULD  
BENEFIT BY HIS ACTIONS.  
HIS SERVANTS COULD TELL  
ME LITTLE.

IF SOMEONE WAS  
EMPLOYING THAT  
CATERPILLAR, A BEING  
WHO ONCE CONSUMED  
UNIVERSES...

...I MAY FINALLY BE  
PLAYING AGAINST  
AN EQUAL...

HEY!





6

IS THAT  
WHAT YOU'RE  
LOOKING  
FOR?



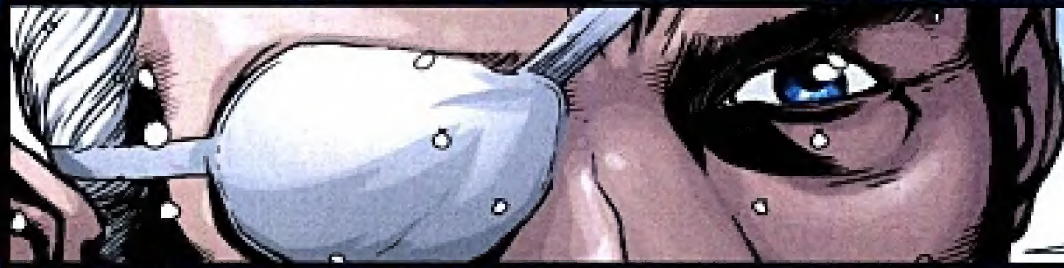




WAIT.

SOMETHING'S WRONG.

WHAT, YOU THINK SOMEONE'S GOT HERE FIRST?



...NO.

NOT WITH THOSE LONG HORIZONS, AND I'VE GOT SENSORS DEPLOYED FOR ALL KINDS OF...

NO. IT'S... A FEELING.



GLAD YOU DIDN'T SEE FIT TO QUESTION THAT, LUTHOR.

YOU'RE PAYING THE BILLS--



"--LET ME GO FIRST."

LEX, WHAT--?

I'M...  
I'M FINE.



MY... NEED... TO HAVE THIS...

...MADE ME WANT TO STOP HIM, TO TELL THAT I SHOULD GO FIRST.

BUT I AM GREATER THAN MY NEED--



--I'M MY INTELLECT,  
NOT MY...FEELINGS.

WILSON TO LUTHOR,  
NO SIGN OF A THREAT,  
BUT I'M STILL...

WHAT IS  
THIS?

I FEEL...  
PROFESSIONALLY  
SCARED.

EXTREMELY SO,  
LIKE I'M FRAMED IN  
A LIT DOORWAY.

FOR  
NO LOGICAL  
REASON.

FROM WHAT MY  
SENSORS CAN  
MAKE OF IT...

...THIS IS  
INCREDIBLE.  
I THINK...  
THE DOME IS A  
DIFFERENT  
KIND OF  
SPACETIME.

AN  
ALLOTROPE OF  
NORMAL SPACE.  
LIKE DIAMOND  
AND COAL ARE  
DIFFERENT KINDS  
OF CARBON.

NOT THAT  
I CARE ABOUT  
THOSE FOOLS  
ON THE NOBEL  
JURY--

--BUT  
I SUSPECT THIS  
COULD SOLVE SOME  
FUNDAMENTAL  
PROBLEMS IN  
COSMOLOGY.

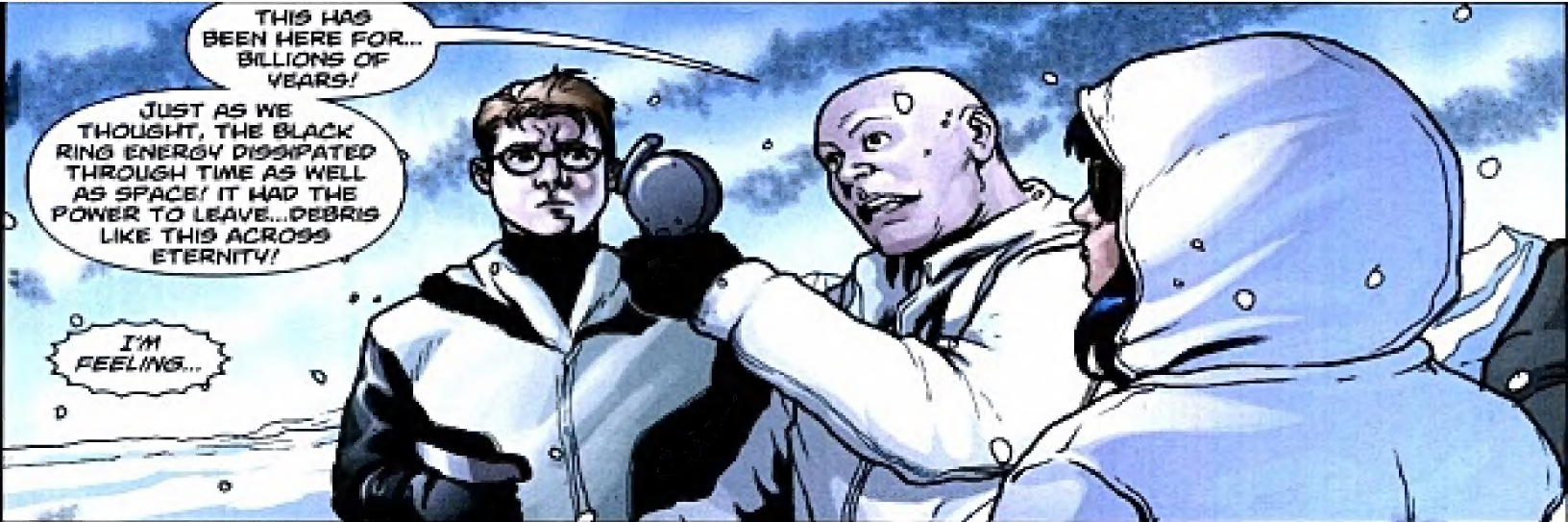
IT'S NOT  
A PRECISELY  
LIMITED EFFECT.  
IT SPREADS OUT  
AROUND THE DOME  
SHAPE...

SIR, THE  
CHRONOMETER--

IF THIS IS  
CORRECT--!

YES!





THIS HAS BEEN HERE FOR... BILLIONS OF YEARS!

JUST AS WE THOUGHT, THE BLACK RING ENERGY DISSIPATED THROUGH TIME AS WELL AS SPACE! IT HAD THE POWER TO LEAVE...DEBRIS LIKE THIS ACROSS ETERNITY!

I'M FEELING...



MAKING POCKETS OF THIS DIFFERENT SORT OF SPACETIME... LIKE BUBBLES...HOLES...

BUT WHY CAN WILSON SENSE IT?

...FEELING... HARD TO... DESCRIBE...



IT'S OFTEN BEEN THEORIZED THAT MIND IS A COMPONENT OF SPACE AND TIME...

PERHAPS FOR WHAT WE'LL TRADEMARK AS "LUTHORSPACE," THAT'S EVEN MORE SO!

...LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING COMING...

LEX!



...COMING RIGHT AT--!

AH!

AAAAHHHH!!!





SIR, MR. WILSON IS PERHAPS THE MOST HIGHLY TRAINED SOLDIER ON EARTH, WITH THE STRENGTH OF TEN MEN.

MIGHT I SUGGEST THAT NOW WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO--

SPALDING--!



YOU WILL SAMPLE THE DARK RING ENERGY AS PLANNED.

I WILL NOT LEAVE THIS DISCOVERY IN ANOTHER'S HANDS.

BUT, SIR--!



I'LL DEAL WITH DEATHSTROKE.

SECURITY!



BUY ME FIVE SECONDS.

GET IN HIS WAY.

SPALDING, ACTIVATE THE PORTABLE POWER SUIT.





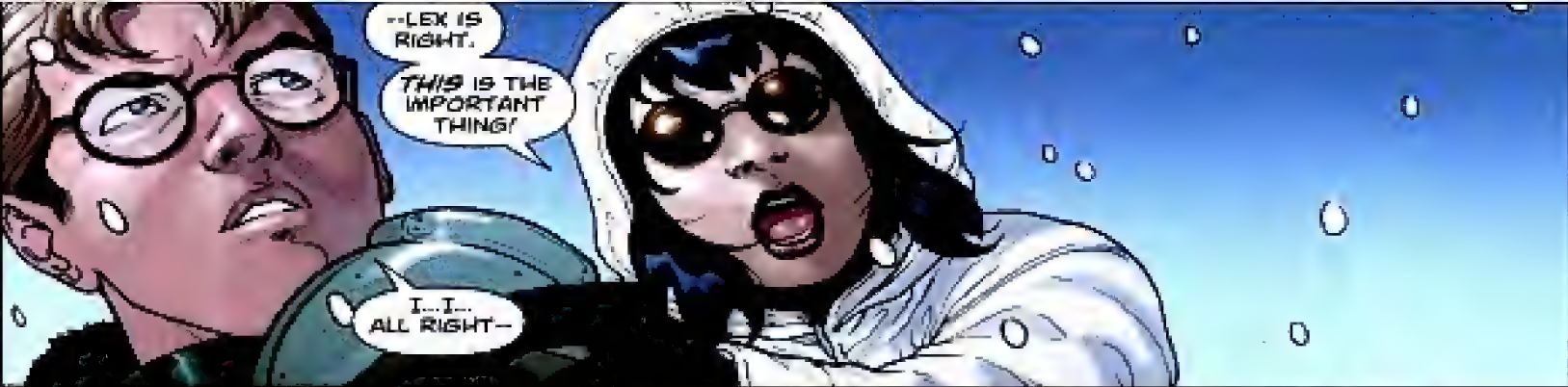








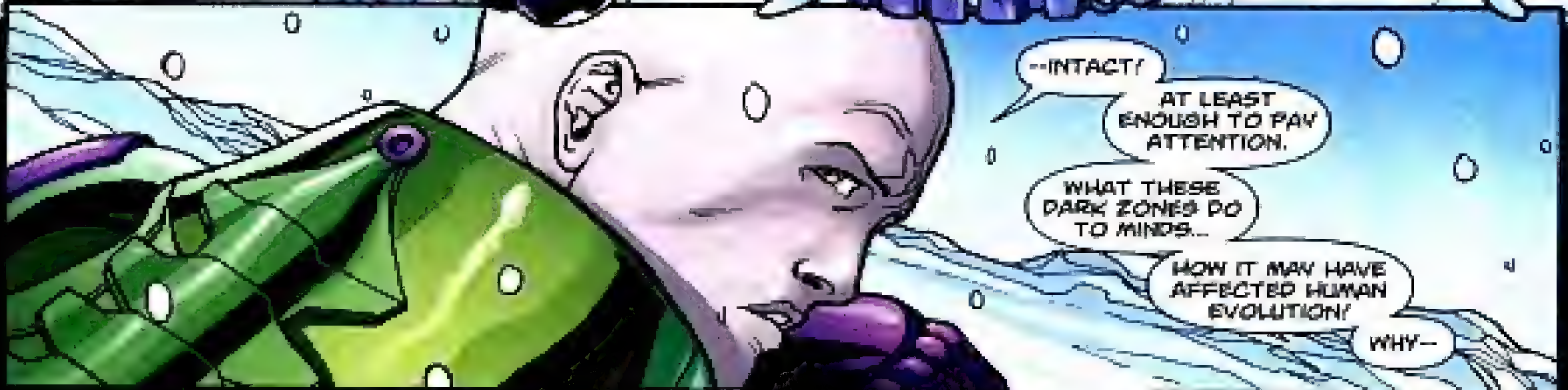




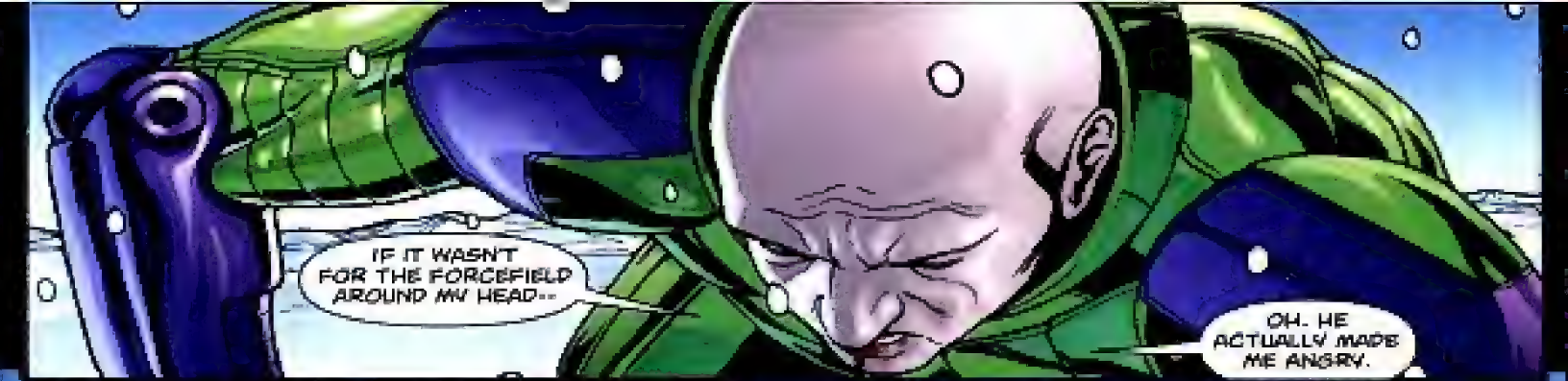












IF IT WASN'T  
FOR THE FORCEFIELD  
AROUND MY HEAD...

OH. HE  
ACTUALLY MADE  
ME ANGRY.



I'M...

I'M  
STARTING  
TO FEEL THE  
EFFECT!


IT MUST  
BE--



**AHHHHHHHHHHH!**

--REGULATED  
BY STRONG  
EMOTION.

ANY  
EMOTION.



DON'T LET  
SPALDING BECOME  
AFRAID! HAVE HIM  
COMPLETE THE  
ANALYSIS--!

LOIS!

THEN GET  
ME OUT OF  
HERE!

I'LL TRY  
TO--

TRY TO--

OH NO.



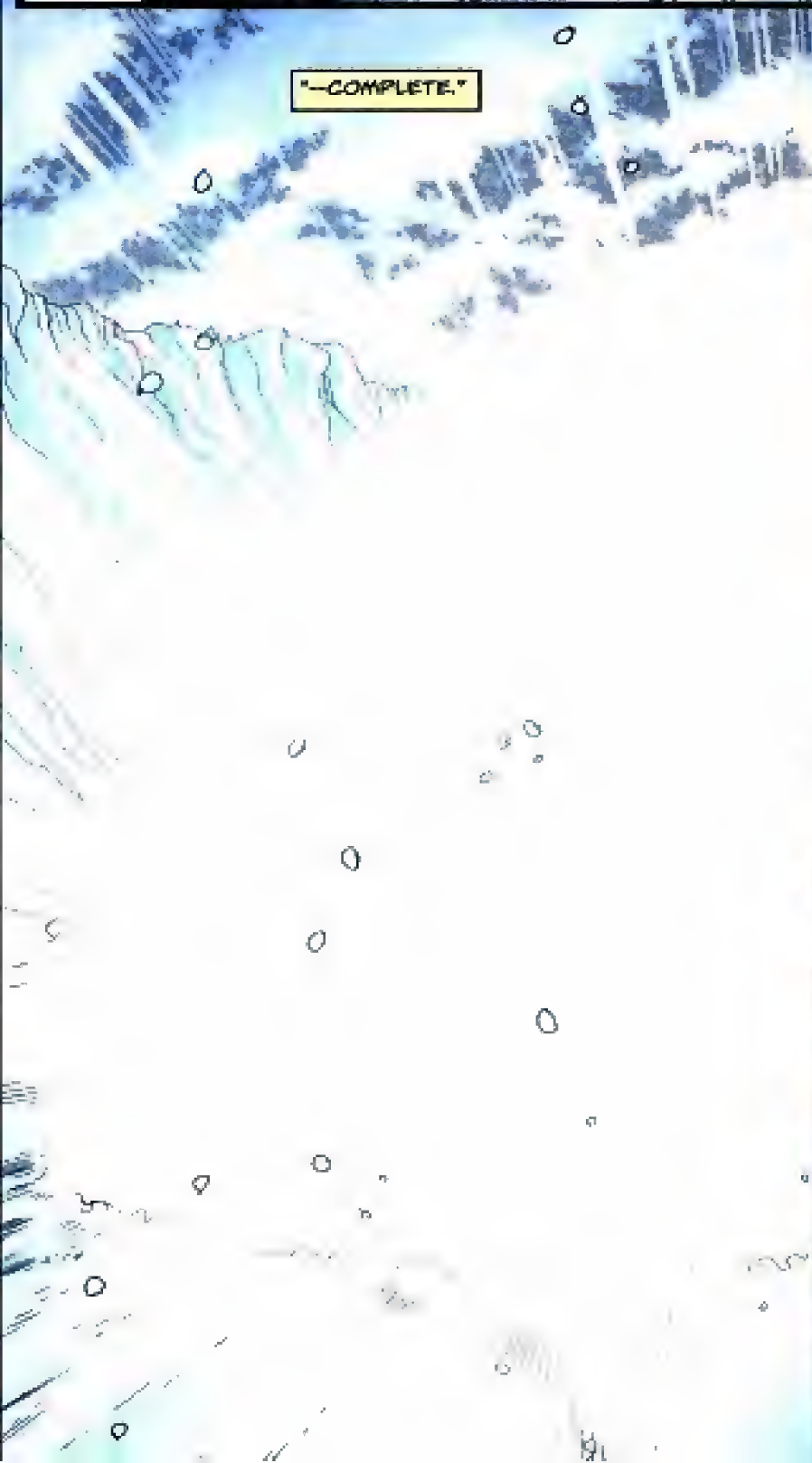






HE'S  
DONE IT!

ANALYSIS...



"—COMPLETE."



OH...  
THAT WAS...

REGRETTABLE.



YOU WERE  
ABOUT TO  
KILL ME.

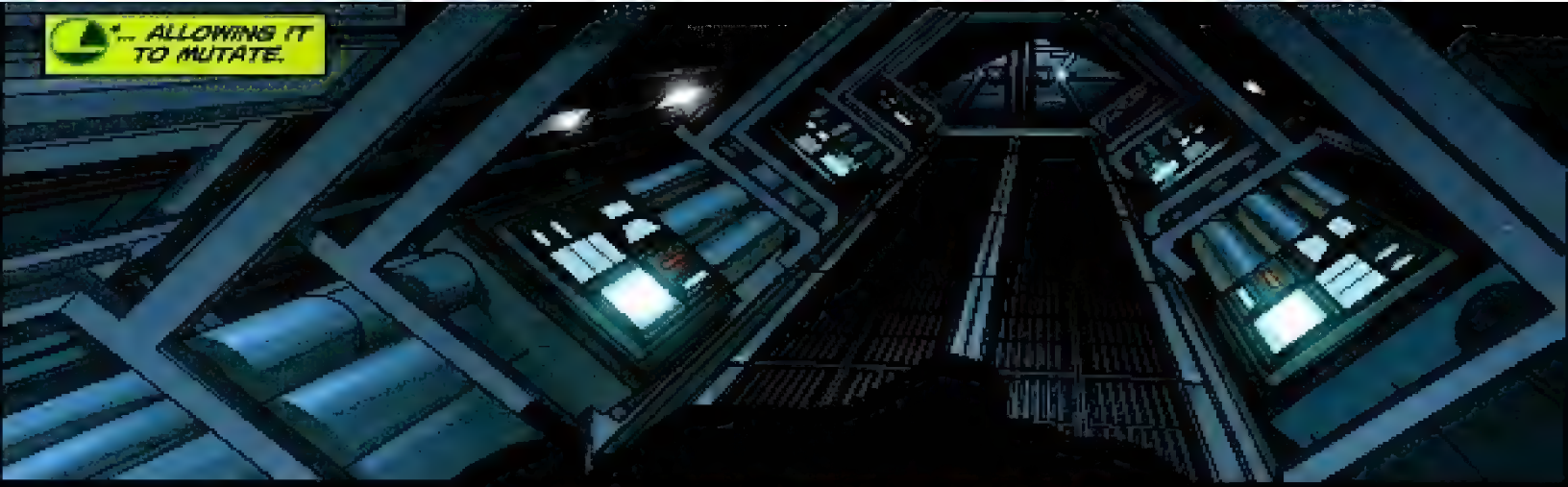
CUT  
YOUR FEE  
IN HALF—

—AND  
WE'LL SAY  
NO MORE  
ABOUT IT.










... ALLOWING IT  
TO MUTATE.



"BUT INTO WHAT?"



"THAT MAY TURN OUT TO BE  
MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHAT WE  
LEARN FROM THESE SAMPLES."

STATE  
NAME.



YOUR  
MASTER.

"THAT MAY BE--"






... SOMETHING  
WORTH KILLING  
FOR.

NEXT:  
THE  
**GRODD**  
DELUSION



 **HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?  
HOW DID I LET THIS HAPPEN?**



**KRA-KOOOM**




**THOOO**



**I WAS SUPPOSED  
TO KEEP  
SMALLVILLE SAFE.**



 AND RIGHT NOW...  
I'M FALLING MISERABLY...



TWO COM

DC COMICS PRESENTS

A LOOK AT THINGS TO COME IN

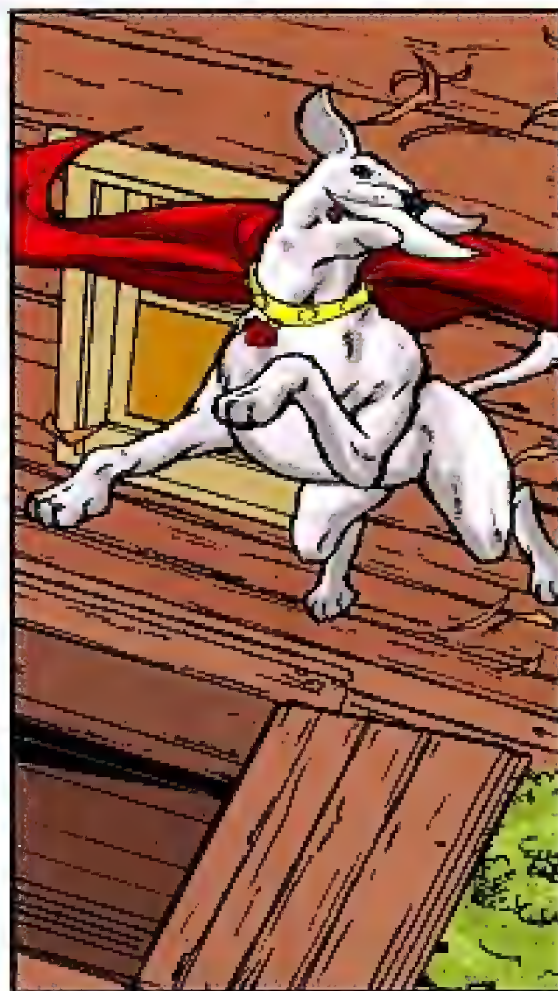
**SUPERBOY**

JEFF LEMIRE-WRITER · PIER GALLO-ARTIST  
JAMIE GRANT-COLORIST · ROB LEIGH-LETTERED · WIL MOSS-ASST. EDITOR · MATT IDOLSON-EDITOR

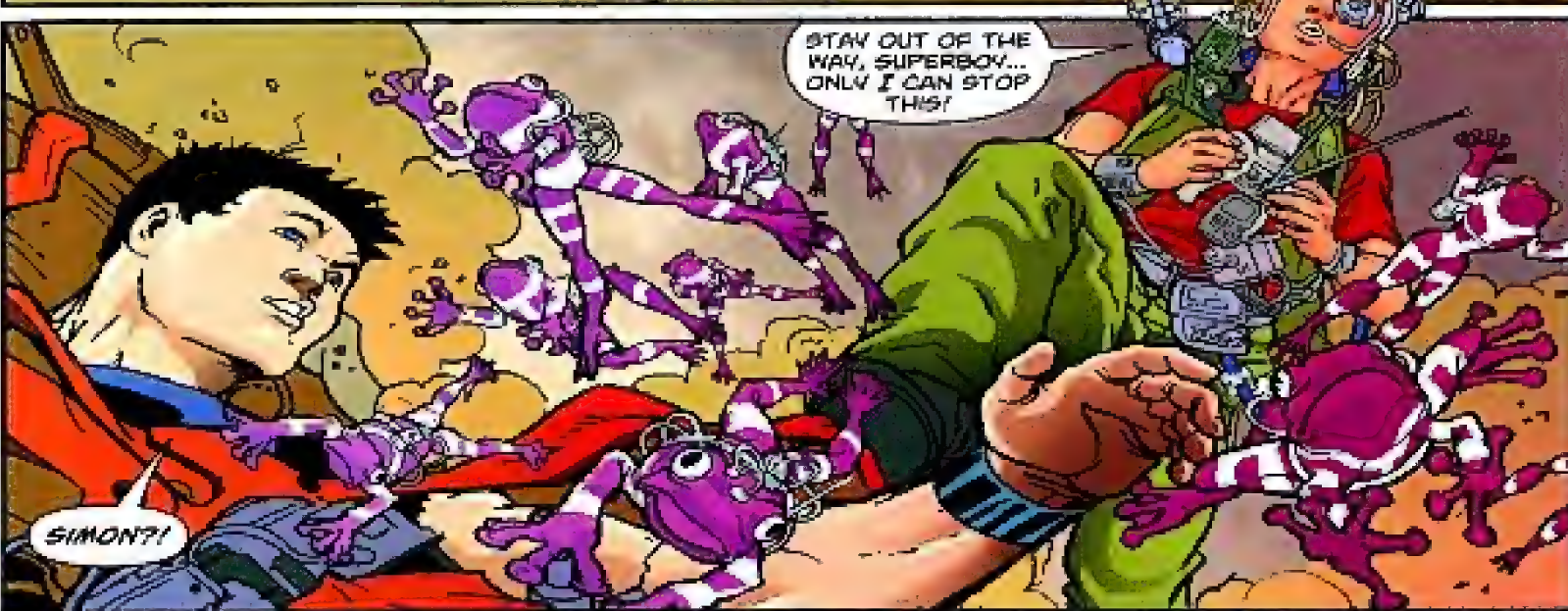
CLONED USING  
THE KRYPTONIAN D.N.A.  
OF SUPERMAN AND THE  
HUMAN D.N.A. OF LEX LUTHOR,  
CONNER KENT FIGHTS FOR  
TRUTH, JUSTICE AND  
THE AMERICAN WAY  
AS...

**SUPERBOY**











SMALLVILLE ITSELF  
IS ATTACKING US!  
BRUTE FORCE IS  
USELESS AGAINST  
THIS THING.

IT'S NOT ALIVE.  
SO IT CAN'T FEEL  
PAIN AND IT CAN'T  
BE HURT.

I'VE DEDUCED  
THAT THESE THINGS  
ARE BEING CONTROLLED  
BY A COMPLEX ARRAY  
OF RADIO WAVES  
AND SONIC  
MANIPULATION.



IF I CAN  
JUST FIND  
THE RIGHT  
FREQUENCY, I CAN  
CREATE ENOUGH  
INTERFERENCE  
TO CUT THIS  
PUPPET'S  
STRINGS.

JUST GET  
PSION FREE  
AND LEAVE  
THIS THING  
TO ME!

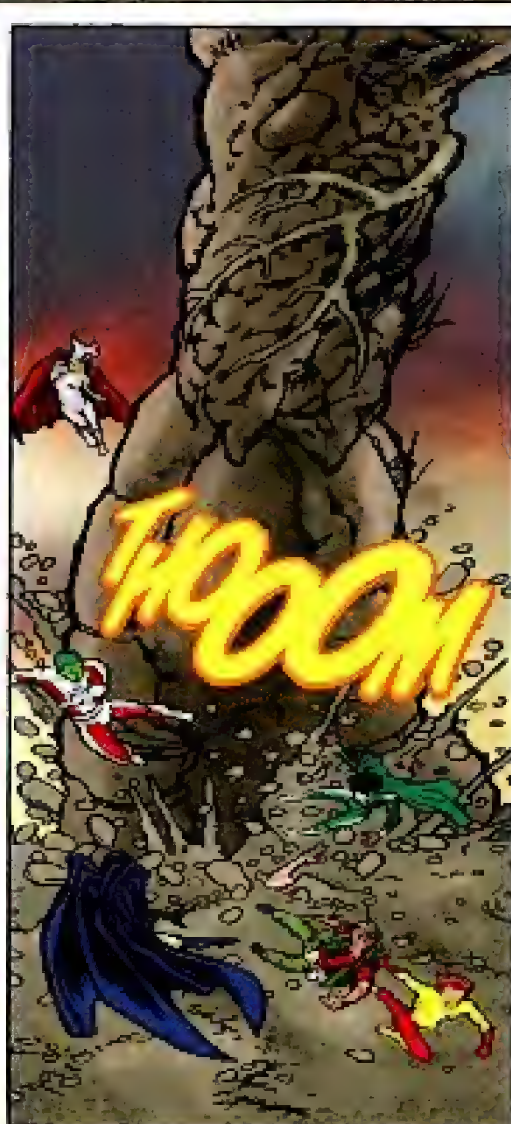
ALL RIGHT.  
BUT YOU  
BETTER  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE  
DOING.



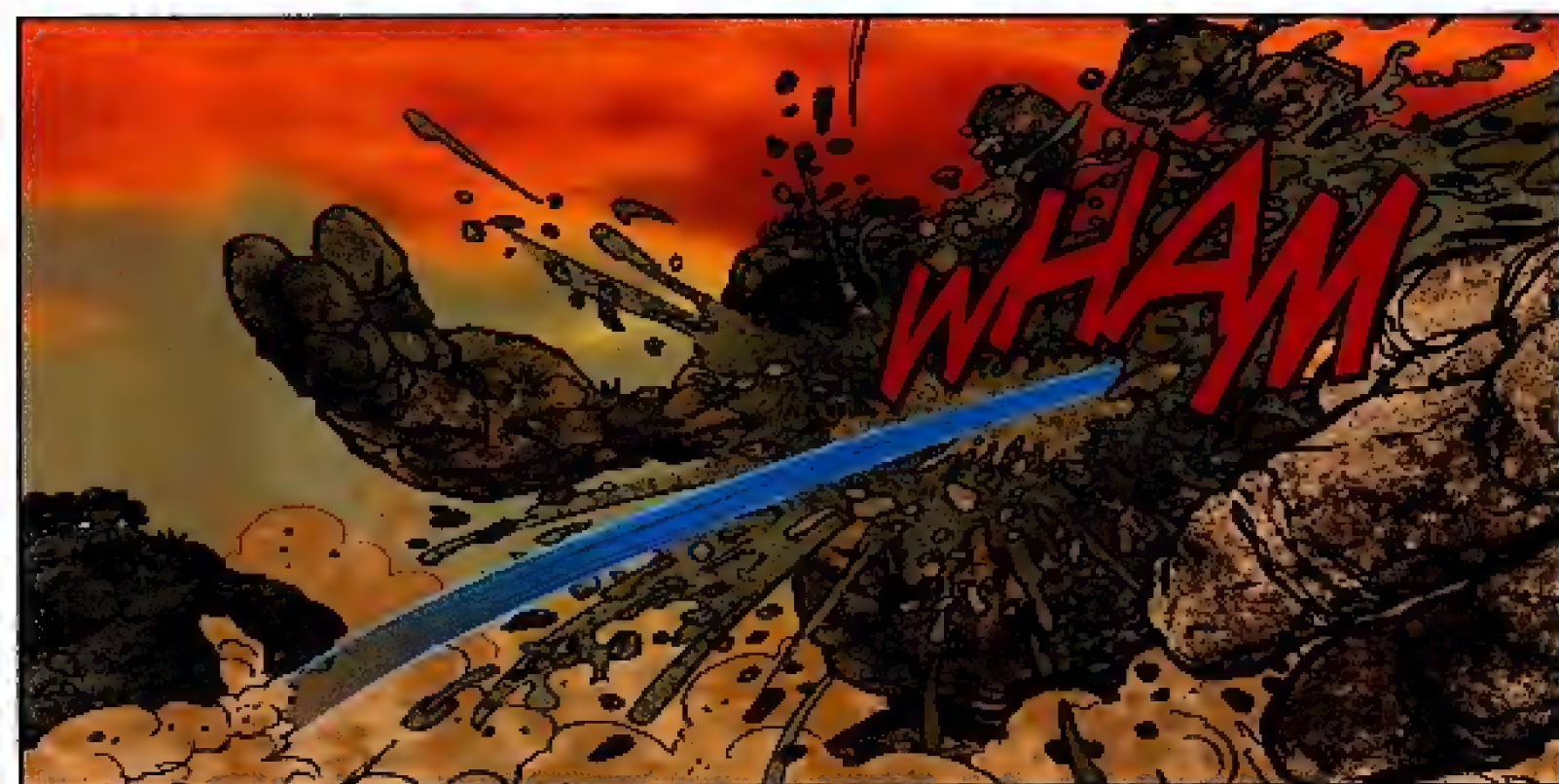
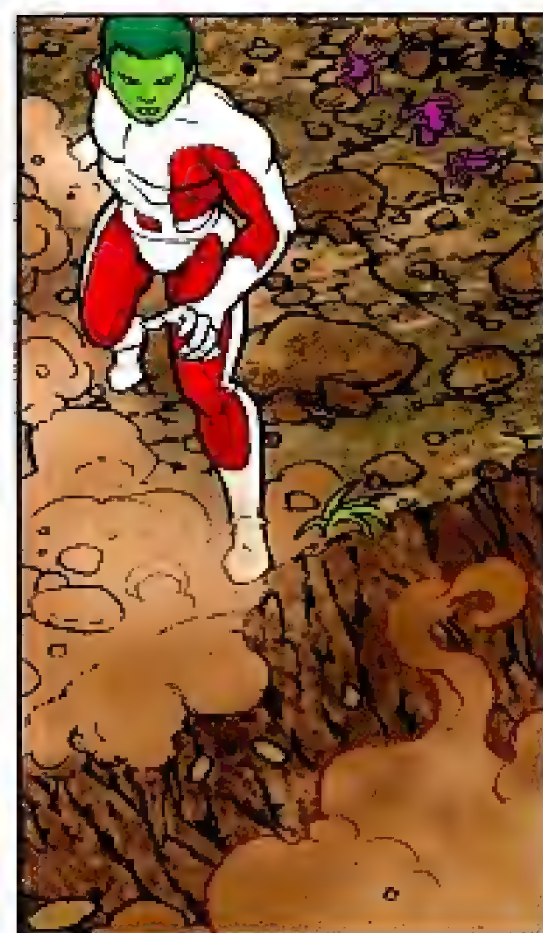
ALMOST GOT  
IT...ALMOST...  
THERE!



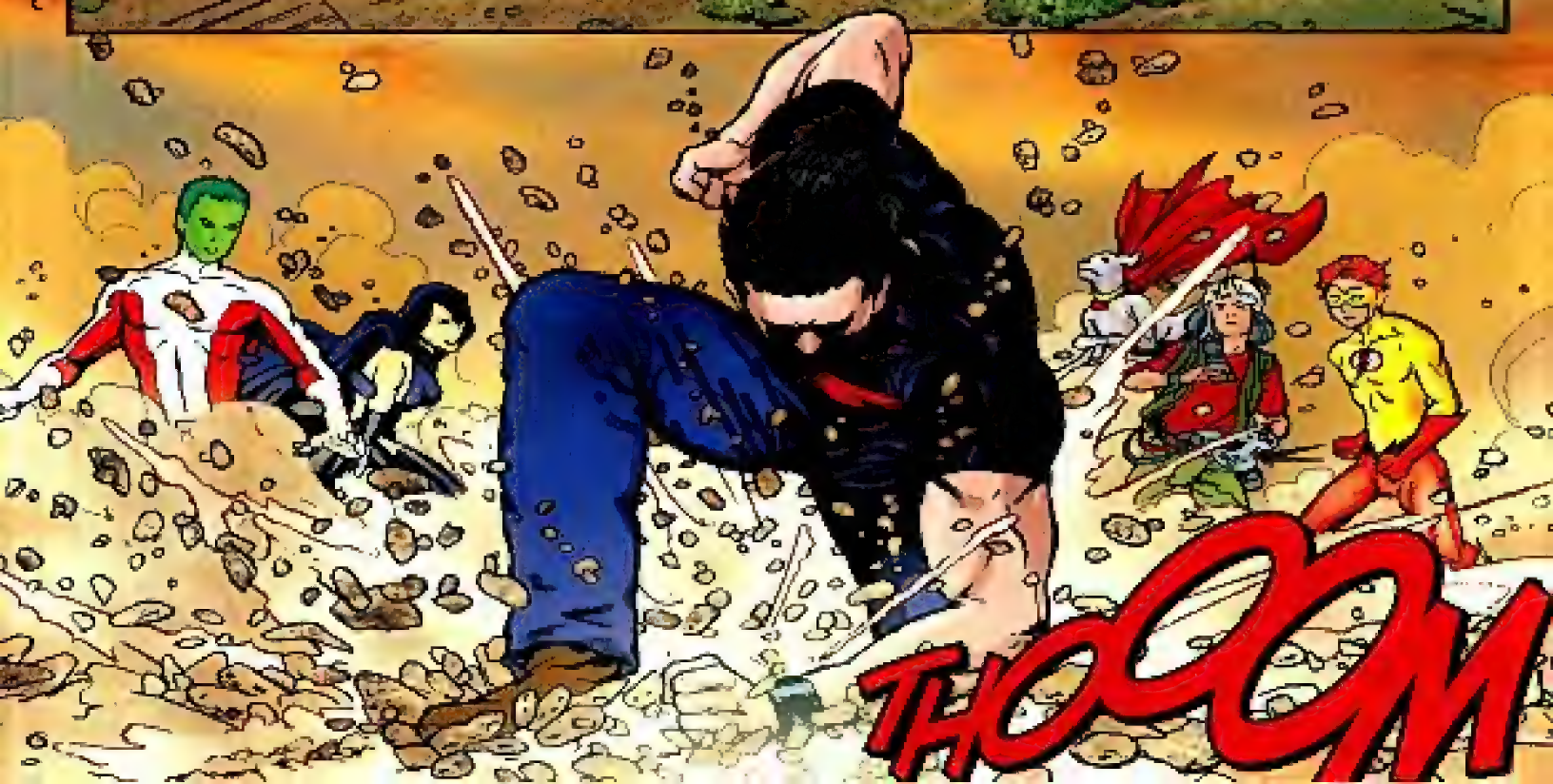




















SEE HOW THIS  
STORY BEGINS IN  
**SUPERBOY**  
#1

ON SALE  
NOVEMBER 2010!



11th ANNUAL

BALTIMORE  
COMIC-CON

2010

## BALTIMORE COMIC-CON = AWESOME

Greetings, DC Nation! We've been super busy racking up the frequent flyer points this month as the 2010 DC Nation Tour has been in full swing. I want to say a huge THANK YOU to all the fans we've met recently. You guys have been incredibly supportive and cool at the shows, and I think a big part of that is the excitement we all feel about the DCU right now. We've got all the Brightest Day titles, JMS on Wonder Woman and Superman, Grant Morrison's Bat-revolution, a new Teen Titans creative team, Paul Cornell's epic-in-the-making run on Action Comics, a new Superboy title, new creative teams on the Batman books, a new Jimmy Olsen feature that introduces Chloe Sullivan to the DCU, a new T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents series, more First Wave amazingness, and so much more yet to come. We really hope you loyal members of DC Nation are enjoying the ride.

Now we have one last chance to get together and talk about comics this summer and it's a doozy. Please join us for the Baltimore Comic-Con on August 28th & 29th at the Baltimore Convention Center. If you are anywhere close to this event, you can't miss it. Heck, even if you aren't close to this event, you can't miss it! It's no secret that I love Baltimore Comic-Con. Not only is it my hometown show, but in my opinion it's also one of the premier events a fan can go to and be able to interact with an incredible mix of comics creators. It's a fan-friendly convention in every way imaginable. I'd guarantee that you would have a fantastic time if you attend the show, but our legal team gets a little twitchy when I start tossing out guarantees in this space. So I'll just heavily imply that you'll have a fantastic time if you go.

So let's review — come see us at the Baltimore Comic-Con on August 28th & 29th at the Baltimore Convention Center. For more information please visit [comicon.com/Baltimore](http://comicon.com/Baltimore)

Be seeing you in Baltimore!

— Ian Sattler Senior Story Editor, DCU

DC NATION  N

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They call him charming... *Beast Charming.*

